

FATHER

Joseph Olpin was born on September 24, 1897, in Pleasant Grove, Utah, to Edwin Dee and Inez Robison Olpin. He was the fourth of eight children. He was blessed as a baby, baptized and confirmed at age eight. He was ordained to the offices of the Aaronic Priesthood according to his age and worthiness and in 1916, he was ordained to the office of Elder prior to fulfilling a mission to the Northern States.

Joseph attended schools in Pleasant Grove until his high school graduation in 1916. During his "growing-up years", he was taught the value of work as he and his brother peddled produce from their farm and orchard with their father weekly to Bingham Canyon by wagon.

In 1910, his father started an "undertaking business" and later Joe, Lew and Roy all adopted this as their profession.

Joe returned from his mission and enrolled at the B.Y.U. in 1918. Here, as well as in high school, he was active in drama and this has carried on in his Church activities throughout his life.

During his college years, he was ordained to the office of a Seventy. He also met Violet Larsson, a student nurse at the Dr. W. H. Groves L. D. S. Hospital in Salt Lake City.

After a year of acquaintance and a year of courtship, Violet and Joe were married on December 21, 1921, in the Salt Lake Temple in a double ceremony with brother Lew and his wife, Margaret Joseph.

Joe and Violet's first home was Grandma Larsson's house, since Grandma and Elsa had moved to California. Two years later, they bought their first house and their first three children were born while they resided there, Joseph Edwin (Ted), Inazelle and Mary.

Church and community activities, along with funeral and farm work, filled their lives. Joe was ordained a High Priest during these years.

On October 4, 1928, Joseph, Violet and family moved to Heber City where they started a new mortuary business to serve the community. They bought a home from Joseph A. Rasband where they lived in one room until Rasbands moved to their newly-built home next door. This was

MOTHER

Svea Emerensia Violet Larsson was born in Tidaholm, Sweden, April 15, 1899, to Ernst and Elsa Persson Larsson. She was the first girl of two to be born of this union. She remembers well the Swedish folk dances and their quaint costumes.

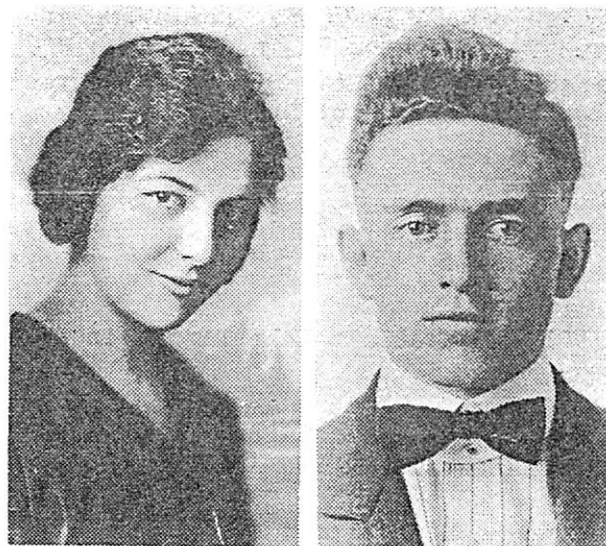
She, her Mother and sister Elsa moved to Denmark when she was seven years old, her father stayed behind because of religious beliefs. It was here that two Mormon missionaries knocked at their door and Violet first heard of the Gospel. They became very interested and moved to Copenhagen, which was the Church headquarters. Violet and her mother were baptized October 25, 1908, and shortly after, they left Denmark for America by boat.

They settled in Oregon where Violet went to school and learned the English language. At eleven, she worked for a woman with several small children who boarded a group of men. From that time, she was self-supporting. After seven years, they left Oregon and moved to Pleasant Grove, Utah. Here she completed her last year of high school in 1918. Following graduation, Violet entered the Dr. W. H. Groves L. D. S. Hospital School of Nursing and graduated in 1921. During her nurse's training, she met Joseph Olpin from Pleasant Grove, Utah.

their home for the next forty-one years. These years were busy ones what with remodeling to make the place adequate for business and family (six more children were born to them--Betty Jane, Richard Guy, Clara, Audrey, Violet and June). Joe supplemented the mortuary income by working at D. T. R (Dixon-Taylor-Russell). Since there were no floral facilities in Heber, they installed a floral shop in their front hall and they operated this for six years. Again during these years, Violet and Joe were very active in Church and community affairs. Also, Violet found that her father (whom she hadn't seen since a small child) was living in Moline, Illinois. Correspondence and visits were made to him following the wonderful discovery until the time of his death on February 18, 1963.

Joe and Violet raised their family to maturity and saw them all married in the Temple. Before the last child, June, was married, however, they were called to the Northern Indian Mission in October, 1965. After only ten days, they had to return home due to blindness in Violet's eyes. The following year was a testimony to all as Violet adapted to her handicap and Joseph recovered from back surgery and near death. On November 1, 1966, they left for a reassigned Texan mission where they fulfilled and completed an honorable, humble mission and were released on November 1, 1968. They then returned to Heber and following much prayerful contemplation as to where they would reside, they built a home across from the Mortuary where they moved in July, 1969. This is a great source of peace, quiet and security to them and still they are close enough to the Mortuary that they can be an active part.

Violet and Joe's children are all still living except for Betty Jane who died in October, 1962. They have fifty-two grandchildren (and more on the way) and two great-grandchildren. They are truly a beacon light to all of their posterity.



1921



DEAR VIOLET,

A half a hundred years ago
The "Lord of Vineyards" said
"Here's a potential garden spot —
Pray use the years ahead

To multiply, replenish, dig,
To fertilize and prune,
To irrigate and keep out tares,
(My coming may be soon).

Be perfect, as My Father is
Forgive each one who harms —
Expect heartaches and bitter tears;
These heal with loving arms."

Well Dear, our time is running out —
He'll be here any day;
Our crops are thriving, green and full
Good time to work and pray.

If we'll still dig, and spray and prune,
And try to still pull tares,
Wonderful harvest will be ours,
And His, He shares, He cares.

LOVINGLY, — JOE



1971